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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 3-4, 12, 14, 20-21, 27, 30, and 34 as follows:

A⁶⁴

1 3. (Amended) The method of processing a cashless payment transaction in accordance
2 with claim 2, wherein the step of performing a LOCAL AUTHORIZATION FLAG test
3 further comprises the steps of:

4

5 a) determining a CURRENT AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPT, wherein said
6 CURRENT AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPT is the current iteration of a local
7 authorization routine; and

8

9 b) comparing said CURRENT AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPT to a LOCAL
10 AUTHORIZATION ROUTINE ENTRY COUNTER.

11

1 4. (Amended) The method of processing a cashless payment transaction in accordance
2 with claim 3, wherein the step of comparing said CURRENT AUTHORIZATION
3 ATTEMPT to a LOCAL AUTHORIZATION ROUTINE ENTRY COUNTER further
4 comprises at least one of the following steps:

5

6 a) setting a LOCAL AUTHORIZATION FLAG to invoke entry into said local
7 authorization routine when said CURRENT AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPT is
8 equal to said LOCAL AUTHORIZATION ROUTINE ENTRY COUNTER; or

9

10 b) initiating a data communication with a remote location to obtain authorization
11 for said cashless payment transaction.

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1 12. (Amended) The method of processing a cashless payment transaction in accordance
2 with claim 1, wherein said plurality of local databases are resident at said audit-credit-
3 interactive system.

4

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1 14. (Amended) The method of processing a cashless payment transaction in accordance
2 with claim 13, wherein the step of determining if said plurality of card identification data
3 is included in said plurality of local databases includes determining if said plurality of
4 card data is in at least one of the following types of databases:

5

6 a) a positive-database; or

7

8 b) a negative-database;

9

A⁶⁷

1 20. (Amended) The method of processing a cashless payment transaction in accordance
2 with claim 18, wherein the step of performing at said audit-credit-interactive system a
3 local authorization of said plurality of card identification data further comprises the steps
4 of:

5

6 a) determining a CURRENT AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPT, wherein said
7 CURRENT AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPT is the current iteration of said local
8 authorization routine; and

9

10 b) comparing said CURRENT AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPT to a LOCAL
11 AUTHORIZATION ROUTINE ENTRY COUNTER.

12

1 21. (Amended) The method of processing a cashless payment transaction in accordance
2 with claim 20, wherein the step of comparing said CURRENT AUTHORIZATION

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cont. 3 ATTEMPT to a LOCAL AUTHORIZATION ROUTINE ENTRY COUNTER further
4 comprises at least one of the following steps:

5

6 a) setting a LOCAL AUTHORIZATION FLAG to invoke entry into said local
7 authorization routine when said CURRENT AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPT is
8 equal to said LOCAL AUTHORIZATION ROUTINE ENTRY COUNTER; or

9

10 b) initiating a data communication with said remote location to obtain an
11 authorization approval for said cashless payment transaction.

12

A⁶⁸ 1 27. (Amended) The method of processing a cashless payment transaction in accordance
2 with claim 26 wherein, the step of determining if said plurality of card identification data
3 is included in said plurality of local databases includes determining if said plurality of
4 card data is in at least one of the following types of databases:

5

6 a) a positive-database; or

7

8 b) a negative-database;

9

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A⁶⁹ 1 30. (Amended) The method of processing a cashless payment transaction in accordance with
2 claim 29, wherein the step of determining if a MAXIMUM AUTHORIZATION
3 ATTEMPTS LIMIT has been reached further comprises:
4
5 a) determining a CURRENT AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPT wherein, said
6 CURRENT AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPT is the current iteration of said local
7 authorization routine; and
8
9 b) comparing said CURRENT AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPT to said MAXIMUM
10 AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPTS LIMIT.

11

A⁷⁰ 1 34. (Amended) The method of processing a cashless payment transaction in accordance
2 with claim 18, wherein the step of settling said cashless payment transaction further
3 comprises the step of:
4
5 processing said cashless payment transaction in the international currency of
6 origin.

7

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Respectively Submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by fax to the United States Patent and

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